MAGI# 0439172604

APPLICATION - FART 1

B-3917

(Parsuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

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ATTACHMENT #1

DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The project consists of (7) properties (630, 634, 636, 640, 646, 662, and 712) on North Portland Street and (2) properties (637, and 641) on South Portland Street in Ridgely's Delight. Ridgely's Delight is recognized as an historic district by the city of Baltimore and state of Maryland. Federal designation has been applied for. The following is a brief description of each house:

630 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three stories

Construction: Brick masonry with framing running front to back.

Additions: Two story rear addition was removed in 1979 after it

had collapsed.

Interior features &

spaces: 1st floor - (2) rooms deep with a corridor along one

wall. 2nd & 3rd floor - (1) room in front & (1) room

in back with stairs between the two.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

634 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with framing running front to back.

Additions: An original two story addition plus a one story con-

crete block shed added later.

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor

down one side. Rooms front and back on 2nd & 3rd floor separated by a stair. Rear additions, bath-

rooms, and kitchen.

636 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: Rear (1) story brick masonry addition.

ATTACHMENT #1 (continued)

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor

down one side. Stair to 2nd floor behind second room.

2nd & 3rd floor rooms front & back separated by a

stair. (1) story addition was kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

637 S. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: (1) story asphalt shingle.

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor

down one side and a more generous stair to 2nd floor. 2nd & 3rd floor have rooms front & back with a stair between. Rear two-story portion housed baths and kit-

chen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

640 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: -

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with a stair to 2nd floor

along one side. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front & back with stair between. Rear two-story portion housed

baths & kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

641 S. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing

Additions: (1) story asphalt shingle

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide two rooms deep with a corridor down one

side and a generous stair to 2nd & 3rd floors. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front and back. Rear two

story portion housed baths and kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

646 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with formstone applied to facade.

Additions: One-story wood with asphalt shingles.

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house two rooms deep with a stair behind

2nd room to 2nd and 3rd floor. Front and back rooms.

Baths & kitchen in two-story portion.

662 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with one story in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with fromstone applied to facade.

Front to back framing.

Additions: One-story brick masonry...

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with a stair to 2nd floor

along one side. 2nd & 3rd floor have rooms front & back separated by a stair. Rear one-story portion

housed kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

712 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry.

Additions: -

Interior features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with corridor down one

side and a generous stair to 2nd & 3rd floors. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front and back. Baths &

kitchen in rear two-story portion.

ATTACHMENT #2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The houses at 630, 634, 636, 637, 640, 641, 646, 662, and 712 Portland Street are all included in the pie-shaped neighborhood of Ridgely's Delight. The neighborhood has been approved for city and state historic designation and is in the process of applying for National Historic designation. "The charming name is derived from a plantation owned by Charles Ridgely. Ridgely acquired the estate as dowry from his wife, Rebecca, the daughter of General John Eager Howard. Ridgely combined that property with another in 1732, known as Brotherly Love, and named it Ridgely's Delight." Since its beginnings, Ridgely's Delight has enjoyed a colorful history. Legends abound about its past, including one that George Washington stopped at one of the homes to rest while nursing an injured arm.

"As the community developed, the gradual change in architectural style of the houses reflected the change in the economic status of its residents."

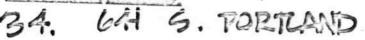
"In the early 19th century the small, cozy Federal-style houses were inhabited by the poorer crafts people, the first settlers." The nine (9) houses on Portland Street fall into this category. "Later on, in the latter part of the century when the affluent professionals moved in, the architecture gradually transformed to ornate Italianate rowhouses. In any case, attempts were made to retain an harmonious atmosphere."

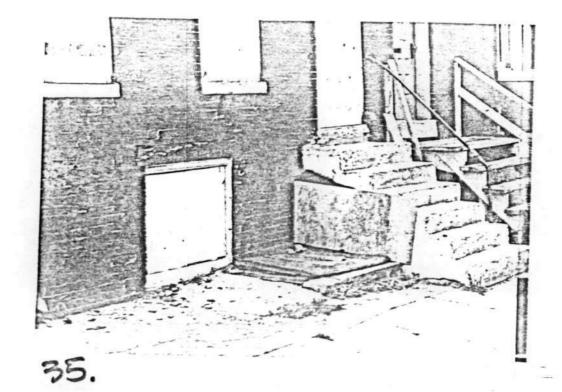
"For the most part, the two or two-and-a-half story Federal houses appear mainly on the smaller streets (Portland Street) and alleys and the Italianate style is more coomonly seen on major streets."

In 1973 the Ridgely's Delight Association was formed to save the Babe Ruth House at 216 Emory Street, which is across the five (5) foot alley from 630 Portland Street.

We feel that all nine (9) houses are representative of those houses built by the first settlers and crafts people. They form a part of a very pleasant 19th century streetscape. Simple brick facades, wood or brick lintels, wood steps, 6 over 6 windows, coal scuttles, basement access doors, chimneys, and simple brick cornices characterize these small homes of some of Baltimore's first settlers.







B-3917 641 Portland Street Block 685A Lot 056 Baltimore City Baltimore West Quad

